



OLD SAN MIGUEL MISSION, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO.

SAN MIGUEL CHURCH, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO.
The Cradle of Christianity in America

The date of the building of this mission for the Pueblo Indians is placed by some as early as 1601, by others as late as 1607. There is reason to believe it antedates the Governors' Palace erected in 1605, as one of the Spanish priests of that time complained that the Franciscan missionaries, in their zeal to convert the pagan, had built missions for them, instead of churches for the Spaniards. During the Pueblo Indian uprising in 1680, the church, together with its early records, was burned. Its walls, however, were left intact, and only slight repairs were necessary when the Spaniards returned in 1692. It is still used as a place of worship. The old sanctuary contains old bells, paintings, some of the old hand carved beams, and many interesting and beautiful religious articles of the early Spanish period, which are explained by the sacristan in charge.

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